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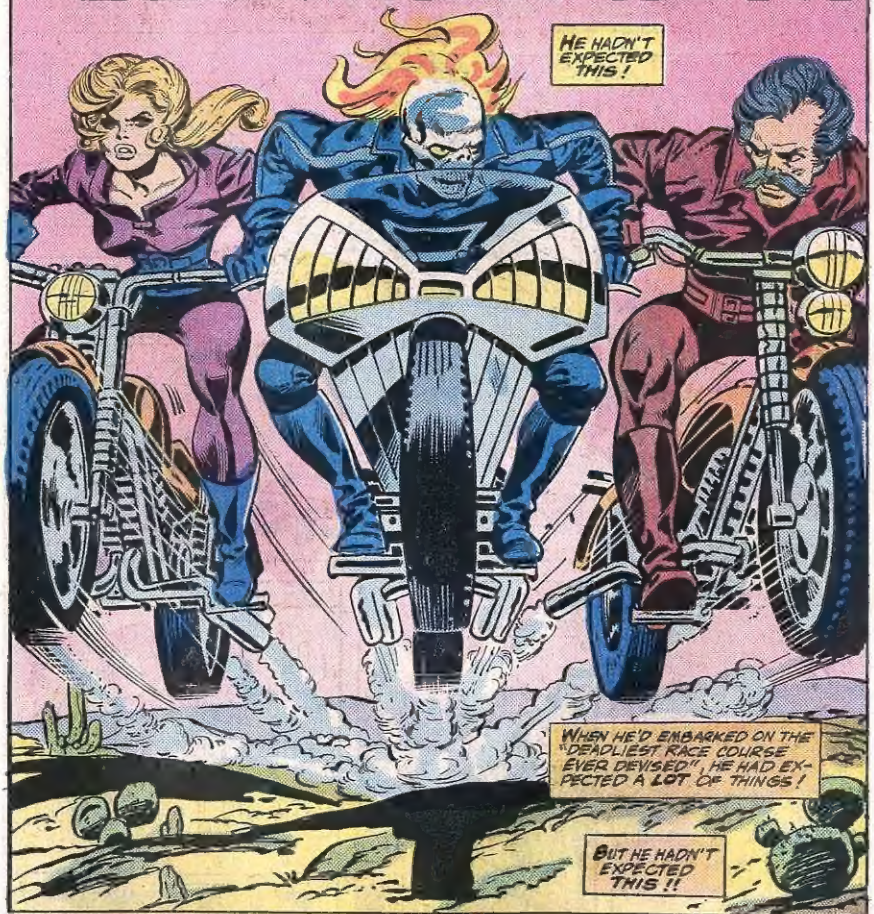
THE SAGA OF JOHNNY BLAZE: Once, not so long ago, he was the pawn of Satan. He has since been freed. But, for reasons he cannot yet comprehend, he still possesses Satan-spawned strength and the seering touch of hell fire. Whether these supernatural powers are a blessing or a curse, he does not know. Yet.

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE GHOST RIDER!** TM

TONY ISABELLA AUTHOR | FRANK ROBBINS ARTIST | VINCE COLLETTA INKER | KAREN M. LETTERER | PHIL R. COLORIST | MARV WOLFMAN EDITOR

THE SALVATION RUN!


HE HADN'T EXPECTED THIS!
WHEN HE'D EMBARKED ON THE "DEADLIEST RACE COURSE EVER DEVISED", HE HAD EXPECTED A LOT OF THINGS!
BUT HE HADN'T EXPECTED THIS!!

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HE HADN'T EXPECTED TO FIND HIMSELF RACING AGAINST THE TWO PEOPLE HE LOVED MOST IN THE WORLD...
...ROXANNE SIMPSON AND HER FATHER, CRASH.
ESPECIALLY SINCE CRASH HAD DIED SOME THREE-AND-A-HALF YEARS AGO...
...AND NOW SEEMED POSITIVELY ANXIOUS TO REPEAT THE FOLLY THAT HAD BROUGHT HIM TO THAT UNWORTHY STATE.
READY, COWARD?
HE REMEMBERS.
HE REMEMBERS ALL TOO WELL THAT FATEFUL DAY.
IT WAS A FRIDAY.
THE CROWDS AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN HAD GATHERED SOME TWENTY THOUSAND STRONG--
--TO WATCH CRASH SIMPSON DIE.
THIS IS YOUR FIRST OBSTACLE.
OR DON'T YOU REMEMBER THE STUNT THAT KILLED ME?
HE REMEMBERS.
HE JUST HADN'T EXPECTED TO RELIVE THAT EVENING.
IN A PLACE THAT WASN'T MADISON SQUARE GARDEN.
WITH A MAN WHO WAS ALREADY DEAD..

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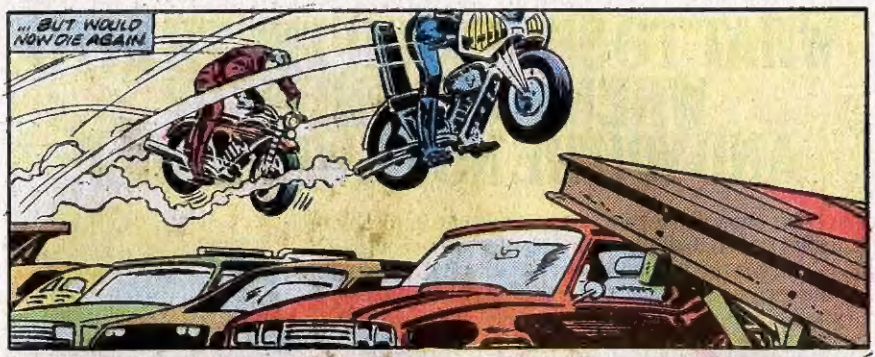

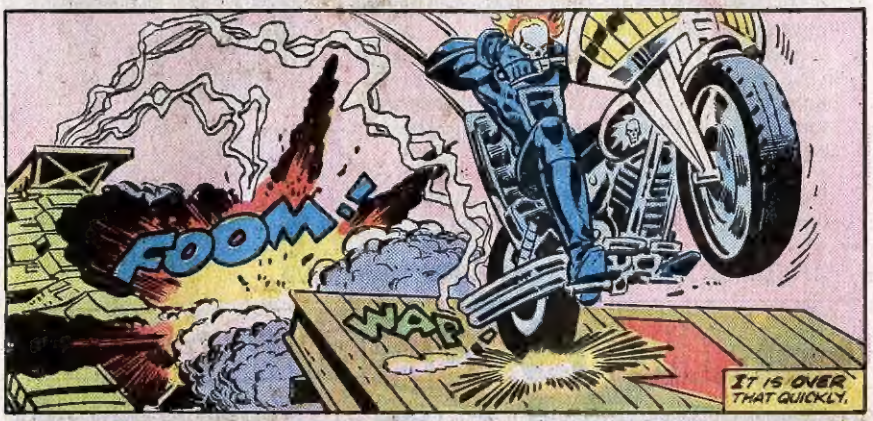

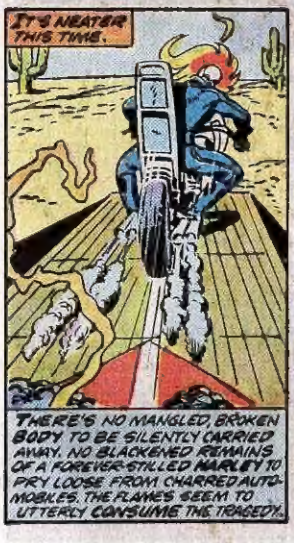
IT'S NEATER THIS TIME.
THERE'S NO MANGLED, BROKEN BODY TO BE SILENTLY CARRIED AWAY. NO BLACKENED REMAINS OF A FOREVER-STILLED HARLEY TO PRY LOOSE FROM CHARRED AUTOMOBILES. THE FLAMES SEEM TO UTTERLY CONSUME THE TRAGEDY...

HOW COULD YOU ...AFTER DAD...?!
ROCKY... WAIT! I ONLY DID IT FOR YOU!
AND BY THE TIME HE REALIZES THAT HE, TOO, HAS BEEN CAUGHT UP IN THIS OBSCENE RERUN OF HIS LIFE...

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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WHAT TO SINK YOUR TEETH INTO WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY AND YOU'RE NOT A WEREWOLF.

Every now and then, do you get this uncontrollable urge to bite into something that's really got some meat in it?

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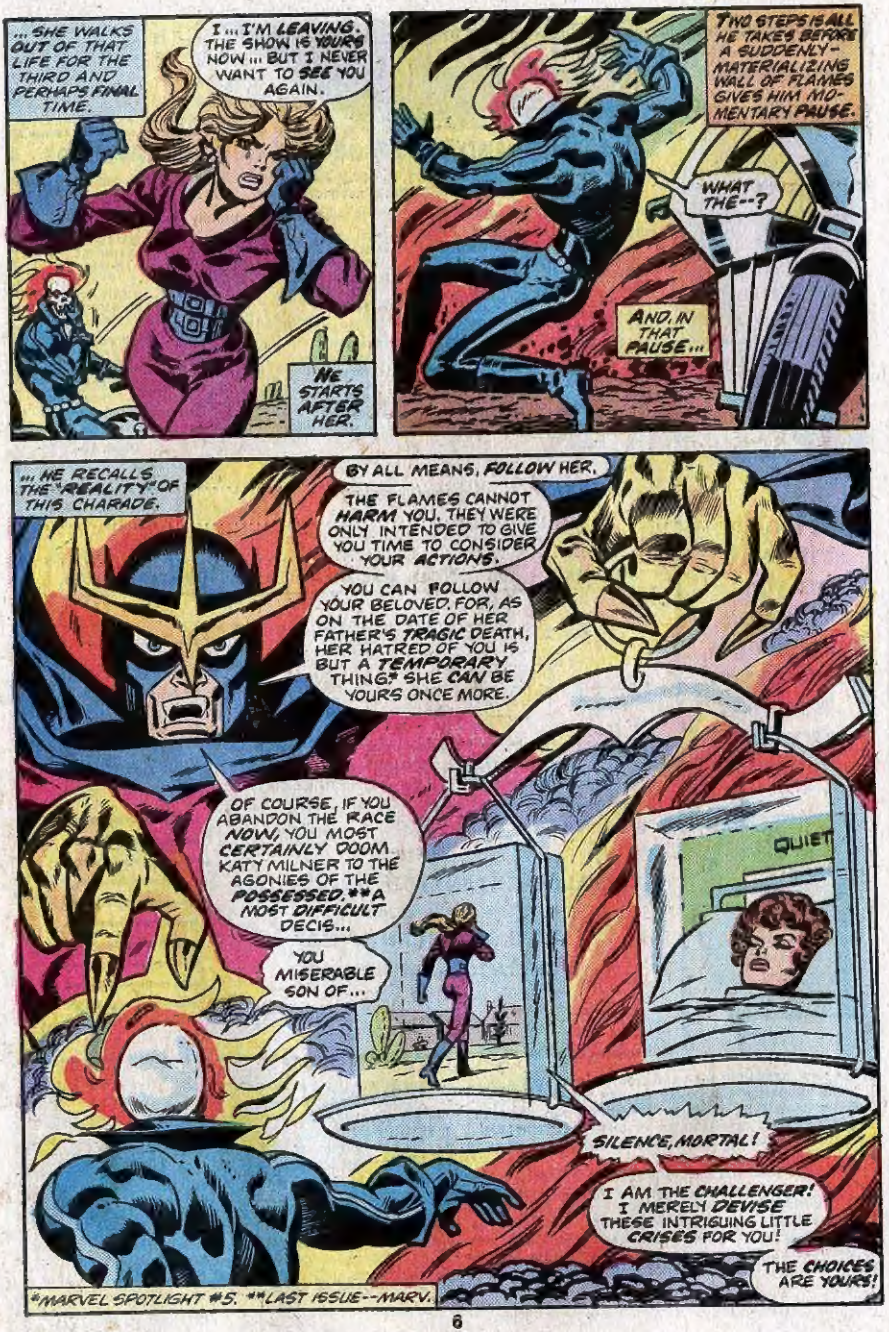
... SHE WALKS OUT OF THAT LIFE FOR THE THIRD AND PERHAPS FINAL TIME.
I ... I'M LEAVING. THE SHOW IS YOURS NOW ... BUT I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
HE STARTS AFTER HER.
TWO STEPS IS ALL HE TAKES BEFORE A SUDDENLY-MATERIALIZING WALL OF FLAMES GIVES HIM MOMENTARY PAUSE.
WHAT THE--?
AND, IN THAT PAUSE...
... HE RECALLS THE "REALITY" OF THIS CHARADE.
BY ALL MEANS, FOLLOW HER.
THE FLAMES CANNOT HARM YOU. THEY WERE ONLY INTENDED TO GIVE YOU TIME TO CONSIDER YOUR ACTIONS.
YOU CAN FOLLOW YOUR BELOVED. FOR, AS ON THE DATE OF HER FATHER'S TRAGIC DEATH, HER HATRED OF YOU IS BUT A TEMPORARY THING." SHE CAN BE YOURS ONCE MORE.
OF COURSE, IF YOU ABANDON THE RACE NOW, YOU MOST CERTAINLY DOOM KATY MILNER TO THE AGONIES OF THE POSSESSED.** A MOST DIFFICULT DECIS...
YOU MISERABLE SON OF...
QUIET
SILENCE, MORTAL!
I AM THE CHALLENGER! I MERELY DEVISE THESE INTRIGUING LITTLE CRISES FOR YOU!
THE CHOICES ARE YOURS!

*MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #5. **LAST ISSUE--MARV.

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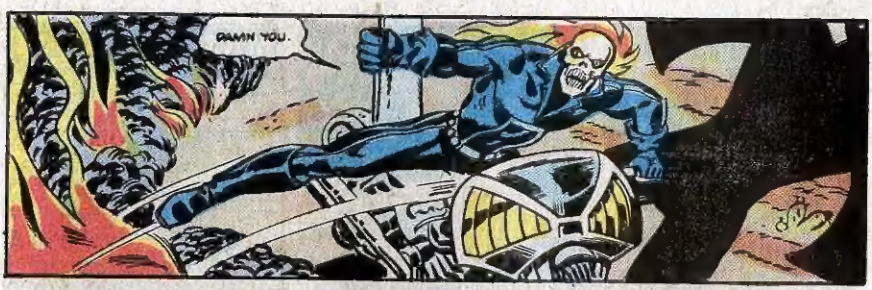
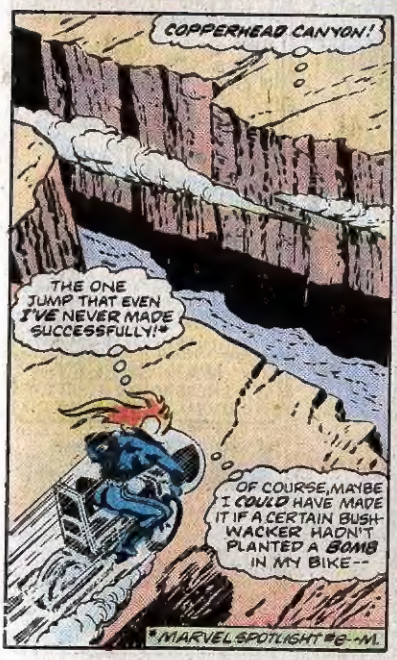


A MOST REDUNDANT SENTIMENT, FOOL.
AND ONE THAT COULD EQUALLY APPLY TO YOU!
VROOOM
DO YOUR WORST, CHALLENGER.
I'M SEEING THIS THROUGH TO THE END!


COPPERHEAD CANYON!
THE ONE JUMP THAT EVEN I'VE NEVER MADE SUCCESSFULLY!*
OF COURSE, MAYBE I COULD HAVE MADE IT IF A CERTAIN BUSH-WACKER HADN'T PLANTED A BOMB IN MY BIKE--
*MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #8--M.

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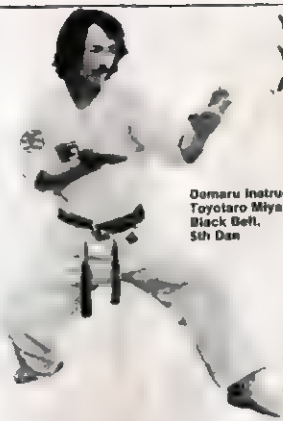

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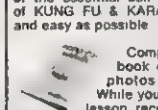

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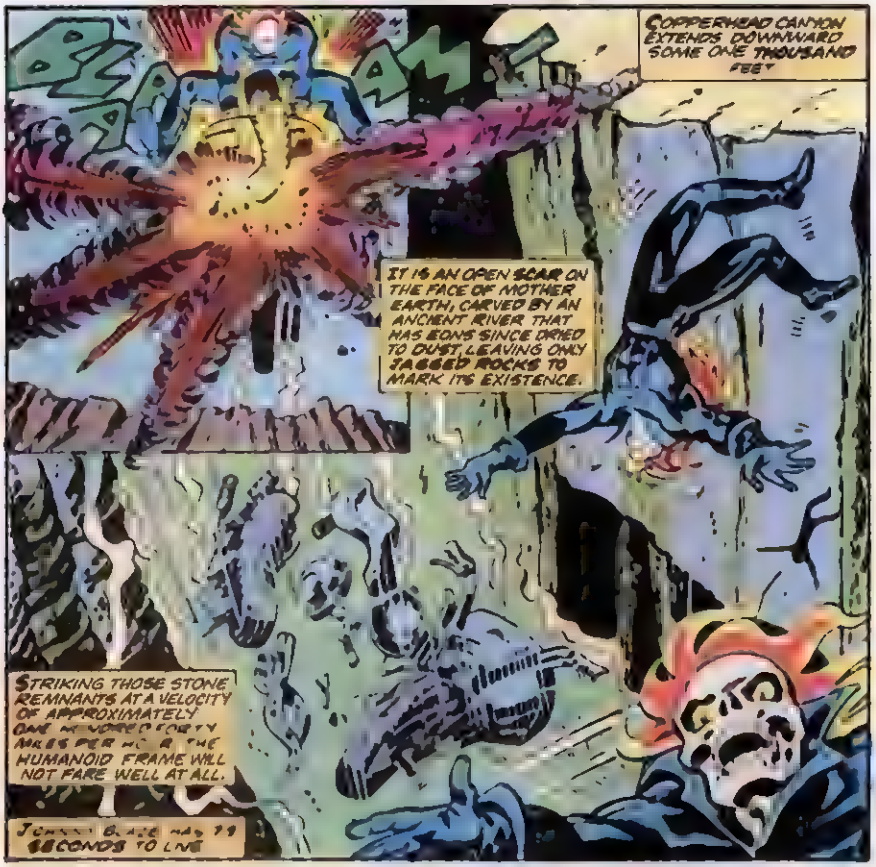
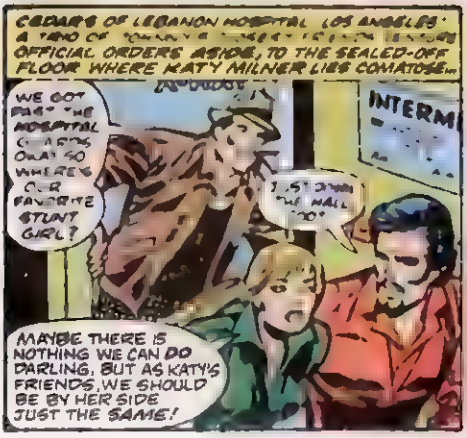

BLAM
COPPERHEAD CANYON EXTENDS DOWNWARD SOME ONE THOUSAND FEET
IT IS AN OPEN SCAR ON THE FACE OF MOTHER EARTH, CARVED BY AN ANCIENT RIVER THAT HAS EONS SINCE DRIED TO DUST, LEAVING ONLY JAGGED ROCKS TO MARK ITS EXISTENCE.
STRIKING THOSE STONE REMNANTS AT A VELOCITY OF APPROXIMATELY ONE HUNDRED FORTY MILES PER HOUR THE HUMANOID FRAME WILL NOT FARE WELL AT ALL.
JOHNNY BLAZE HAS 79 SECONDS TO LIVE


CEDARS OF LEBANON HOSPITAL LOS ANGELES: A TRIO OF OFFICIAL ORDERS ASIDE, TO THE SEALED-OFF FLOOR WHERE KATY MILNER LIES COMATOSE...
INTERM
WE GOT PAST THE HOSPITAL GUARDS OKAY SO WHERE'S OUR FAVORITE STUNT GIRL?
MAYBE THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO DARLING, BUT AS KATY'S FRIENDS, WE SHOULD BE BY HER SIDE JUST THE SAME!

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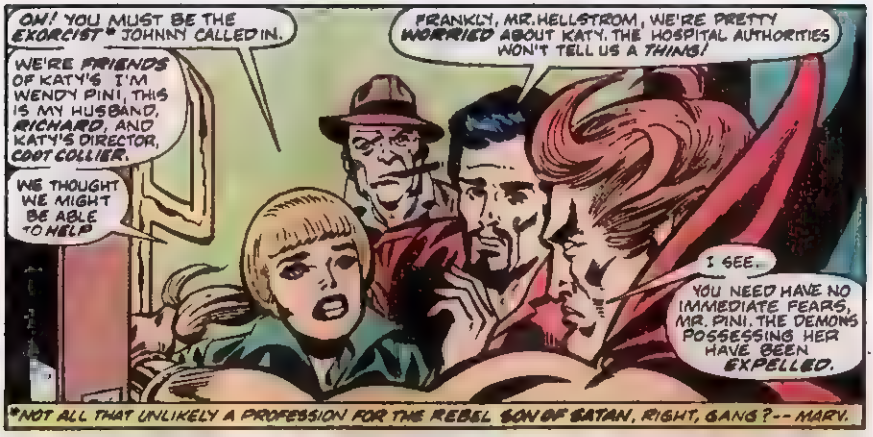
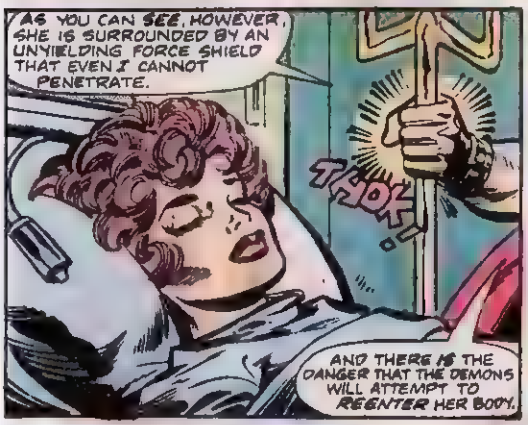
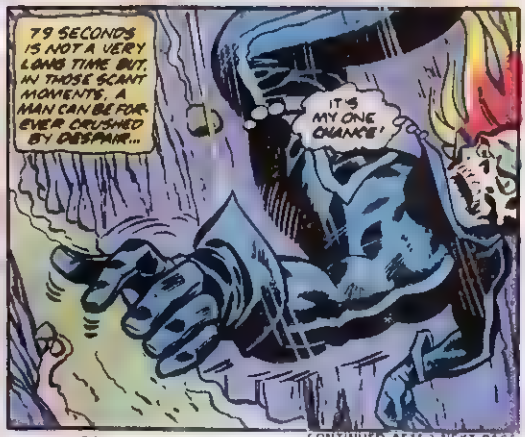

OH! YOU MUST BE THE EXORCIST* JOHNNY CALLED IN.
WE'RE FRIENDS OF KATY'S I'M WENDY PINI, THIS IS MY HUSBAND, RICHARD, AND KATY'S DIRECTOR, COOT COLLIER.
WE THOUGHT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP
FRANKLY, MR. HELLSTROM, WE'RE PRETTY WORRIED ABOUT KATY. THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITIES WON'T TELL US A THING!
I SEE.
YOU NEED HAVE NO IMMEDIATE FEARS, MR. PINI. THE DEMONS POSSESSING HER HAVE BEEN EXPELLED.
*NOT ALL THAT UNLIKELY A PROFESSION FOR THE REBEL SON OF SATAN, RIGHT, GANG?-- MARV.


AS YOU CAN SEE, HOWEVER, SHE IS SURROUNDED BY AN UNYIELDING FORCE SHIELD THAT EVEN I CANNOT PENETRATE.
THOK!
AND THERE IS THE DANGER THAT THE DEMONS WILL ATTEMPT TO REENTER HER BODY.



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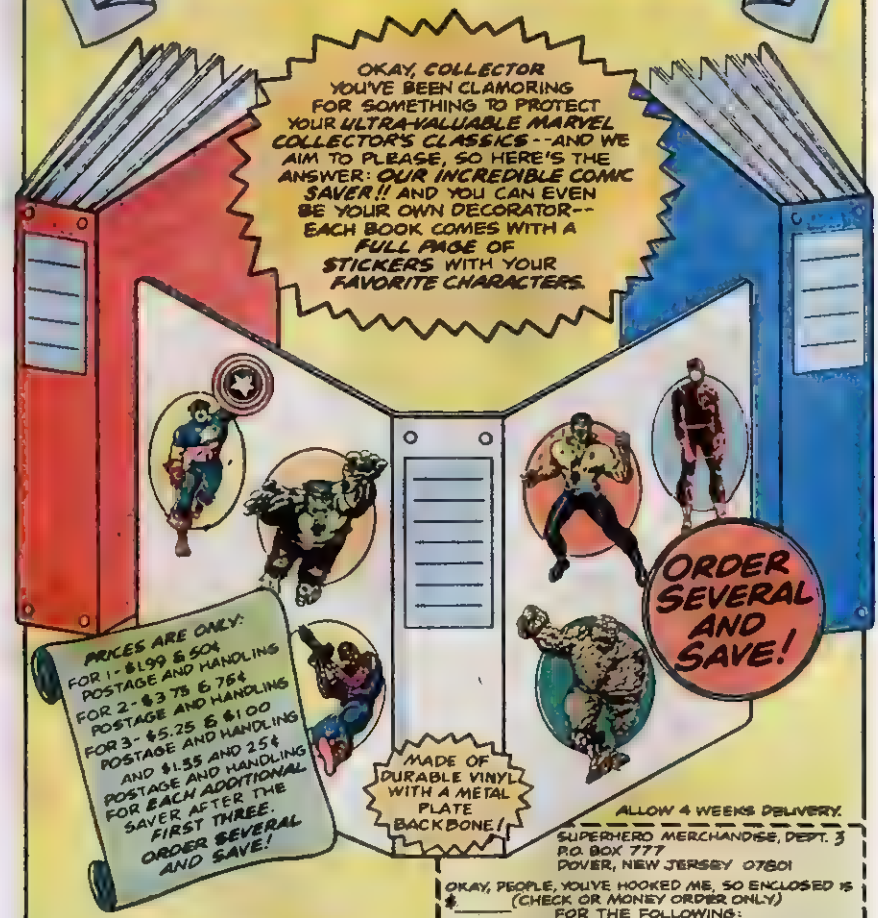

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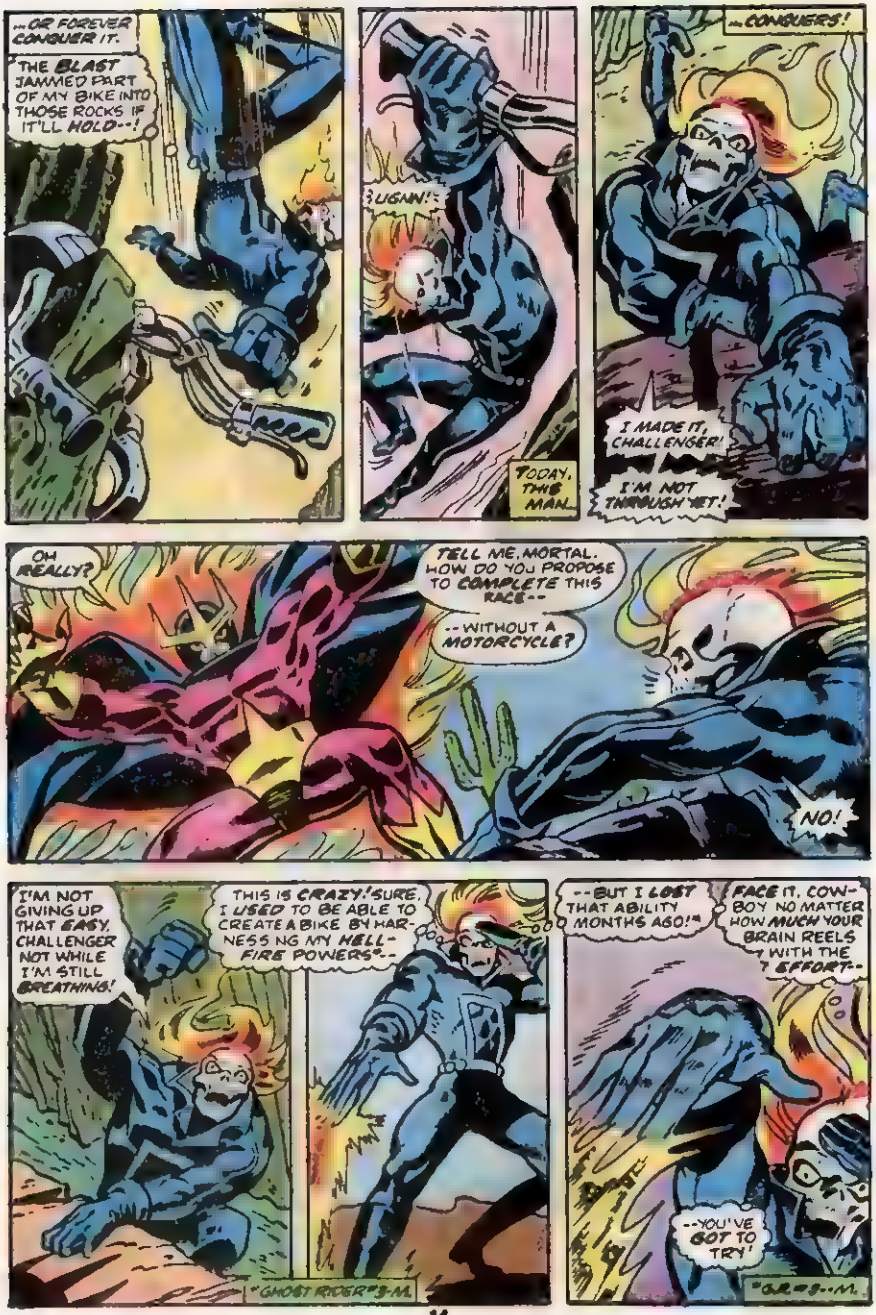
...OR FOREVER CONQUER IT.
THE BLAST JAMMED PART OF MY BIKE INTO THOSE ROCKS IF IT'LL HOLD--!
UGNN!
TODAY, THIS MAN...
...CONQUERS!
I MADE IT, CHALLENGER!
I'M NOT THROUGH YET!
OH REALLY?
TELL ME, MORTAL. HOW DO YOU PROPOSE TO COMPLETE THIS RACE--
--WITHOUT A MOTORCYCLE?
NO!
I'M NOT GIVING UP THAT EASY, CHALLENGER NOT WHILE I'M STILL BREATHING!
THIS IS CRAZY! SURE, I USED TO BE ABLE TO CREATE A BIKE BY HARNESSING MY HELL-FIRE POWERS--
--BUT I LOST THAT ABILITY MONTHS AGO!"
FACE IT, COWBOY NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOUR BRAIN REELS WITH THE EFFORT--
--YOU'VE GOT TO TRY!
"GHOST RIDER"S-M.
"G.R.=S-M.

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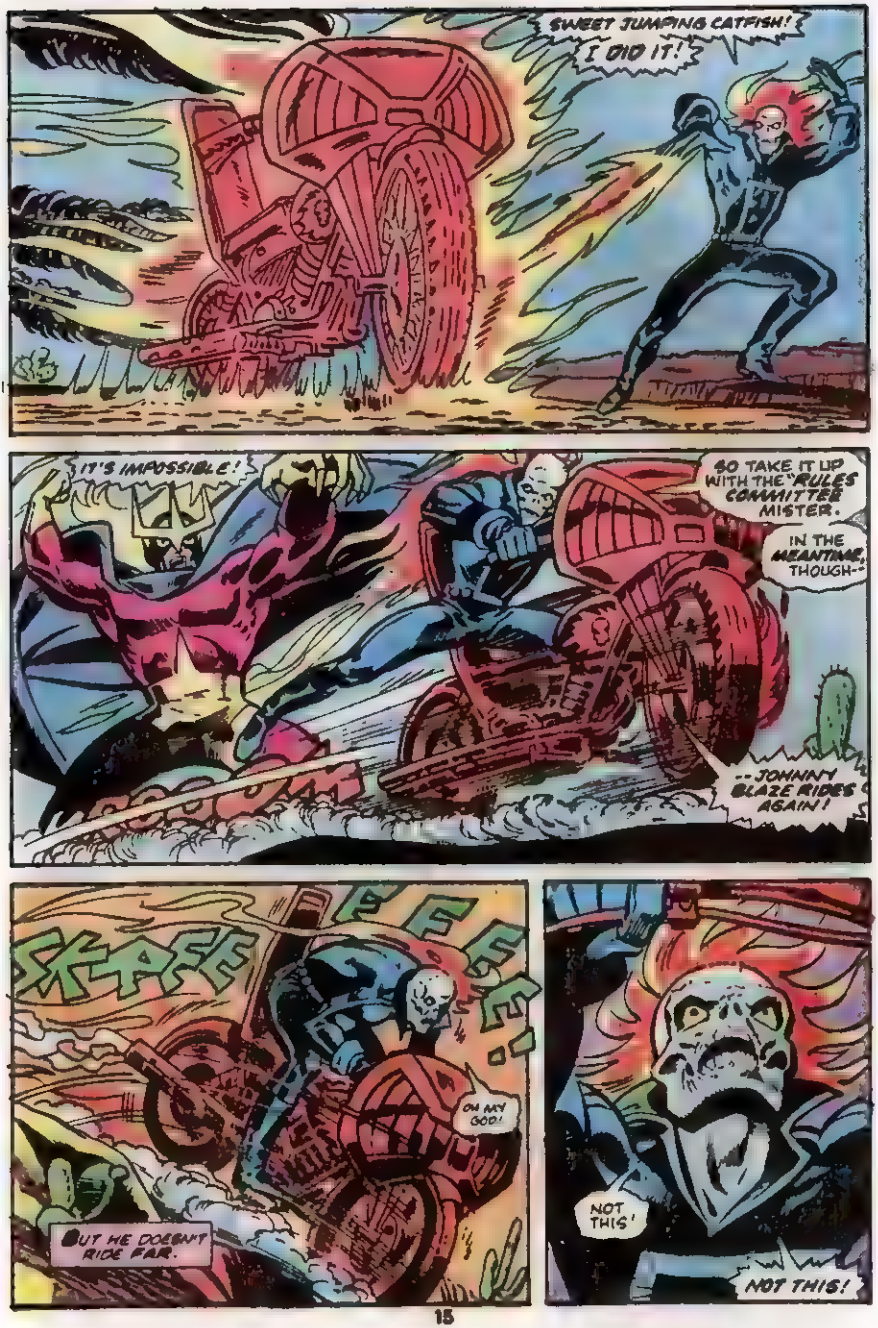

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THIS! THE SIGHT OF A "FRIEND" WHO HAS AIDED THE GHOST RIDER ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS -- A FRIEND WHOSE IDENTITY JOHNNY BLAZE HAS ALWAYS KNOWN, BUT NEVER DARED ADMIT.
THIS! THE SIGHT OF THAT FRIEND BEING CRUCIFIED BY THE DEADLIEST SUPER-FOES JOHNNY HAS EVER FACED!
THE ORB!
SNAKE DANCE!
THE MIRACLE MAN!
AQUARIUS
THE TRAPSTER
THIS: THE FINAL DEGRADING CHARADE THAT PUSHES A MAN BEYOND DISMAY BEYOND HATE, AND PUSHING THAT MAN, TRANSFORMS HIM INTO SOMETHING MORE THAN A MAN...

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TRANSFORMS HIM INTO A RAGING ELEMENTAL FURY!
VRUMM
YIIIII!
THE SPOOKS SHATTERED MY PASTE CONTAINER!
SPRAKK!
I CAN'T MOVE!
BUT I CAN, FOOL!
AND I'LL NOT LET THIS SKULL-FACED INTRUDER DELAY OUR LITTLE "EXECUTION" ANY LONGER!
GUESS AGAIN, BLACKIE!
BECAUSE IF I REMEMBER RIGHTLY, YOU CAN'T USE YOUR POWER--
--IF YOU CAN'T SEE!
MY EYES!
YOU'VE BLINDED ME!
WAM
HE'S TAKEN MIRACLE AND THE "RAPSTER" OUT OF THE FIGHT!
DON'T STAND THERE GAWKING AT HIM, YOU IDIOT!
USE YOUR LASER PISTOL!

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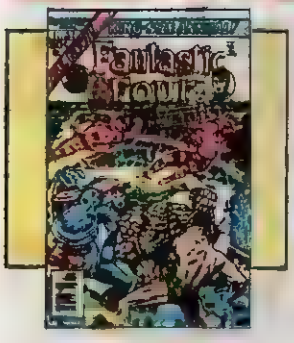
MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST



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☐GHOST RIDER #18: Johnny Blaze fights for his soul and his life when he faces bashful, blue-eyed Benjamin J. Grimm and the assembled might of just about the whole blamed Marvel Universe in "The Salvation Run!"

☐MASTER OF KUNG FU #41: More martial arts mayhem with Shang-Chi, son of Fu Manchu!

☐MARVEL CHILLERS #5: Tigra, the Were-woman, trails the Rat Pack to its lair in a deadly game of "Cat and Mouse!" Guest-starring: Red Wolf!

☐FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL #11: Out of the war-torn era of the 40's comes the Golden Age's greatest super-team, The Invaders, to battle the Fantastic Four in this giant-sized spectacular!

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GHOST WRITERS!

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Startling revelation-time, people.

The Marvel Comics Group—from the publisher to the writers to the legendary Duffy Vohland—is fallible. Really. I wouldn't kid you. Stan once forgot the Hulk's name. I once forgot that a lead character was crippled and had him kick somebody. (In true Marvel tradition, of course, I then made the error the beginning of a new sub-plot.) And though I can't confirm it, the rumor is out that a certain befuddled editor has been turning in scripts for a book by the name of TOMB OF DAREDEVIL.

I know the above probably comes as a tremendous shock to you, but I figure the average Marvel reader is mature enough to recover from even the strongest blows to his belief in the historic entity that is Marvel. And this secret knowledge is necessary if you are to fully understand the reasons for this special edition of "Ghost Writers."

We have been lax, the armadillos and myself, in printing your views on recent issues of GHOST RIDER. Yes, we have allowed whole months to go by without a letters column appearing in these pages. And, yes, we have known the pangs of guilt for our failure in this area. But, hark, we stand ready to make amends for our wrongdoing by selecting the most representative letters on GHOST RIDER #13 to #16, and presenting them herein. Enjoy, folks!

Dear Tony, George, and the rest,

I want to thank you for GHOST RIDER #13's "You've Got a Second Chance, Johnny Blaze." Johnny is at last totally free of his curse, and can now use his powers to help those who need the sort of assistance that only a Ghost Rider can provide. He is leaving the rather limited (for him, at least) field of occult involvement for what should be a rewarding career as a superhero. He also seems to be getting his life to the point where it will provide him with steady employment, opportunities for action, and (by the important addition of supporting characters) interesting developments in his personal life. Just remember that no superhero may have his mind totally free of hassles, and you'll be fine.

The story itself was well paced and well planned, and fit letter perfect into the floor plan set up within the previous year of the Ghost Rider's adventures. The battle with the Trapster symbolizes that GR has left his days of fighting Satan far behind, though I suspect the Prince of Darkness will eventually show up again.

Finally, there was the artwork of George Tuska and Vince Colletta. This issue was their turning point as far as I'm concerned. I haven't a single complaint with Vinnie's inking of George's work this time, nor, I think, in the future.

Again, thanks.

Brian Jordan
53125 Oakton Drive
South Bend, IN 46635

Dear Flame Brains,

Unfortunately, I seem to have missed the first issue of THE CHAMPIONS, but I'll be darned if I'll miss the follow-up of the best Ghost Rider story since his run-in with the Phantom Eagle!

GHOST RIDER #14 ("A Specter Stalks the Soundstage") and this new change of pace for Johnny Blaze seem to be breathing new life into this once-dreary comic. If every issue can be like this one, I expect this mag to move up to monthly status soon. George Tuska's art was above par and Tony Isabella is definitely improving in the scripting department.

Until Johnny Blaze runs out of charcoal fluid...

Mark Dooley
105 Wehrmeier Street
Columbus, IN 47201

As you can see, the mail on GHOST RIDER #13 and #14 was overwhelmingly favorable, but "Vengeance on the Ventura Freeway" (#15) and "Blood in the Water" (#16) split Marveldom right down the proverbial center...

Dear Marvel,

I can't say that GHOST RIDER #15 was a disappointment, but I can't say it was excellent, either. It was more of a...fair comic. The art could have been 100% better, but you could see that it was definitely a rush job, probably by inker Don Heck. I hope next issue is better...much better. On the story, I can't find any gripe. Tony Isabella wrote another winner, and that's all the praise that I need to give.

Larry Dean
6362 Laurentian Ct.
Flint, MI 48504

Dear Tony,

Well, you've done it again! You turned what could have been a pretty good issue into a pretty lousy issue! Issue #15 was just a redone GR #9. Redone very badly, I might add. Why, instead of GR's "friend" intervening, couldn't Johnny have just gone ahead and beaten the heck out of the Orb? Why?!? You're a fantastic writer, Tony, and I know you can do better than this.

Bob Brown's art wasn't too bad, but Klaus Janson is a better inker for him than Don Heck. Don did do a good job, though. I'll be looking forward to Frank Robbins' mighty return in GR #17. The Son of Satan's gonna look awful good!

Ron Cartwright
5703 Cherry Ave., Apt. F-1
Long Beach, CA 90805

Dear Gang,

What can I say about GHOST RIDER #16, except that it was great? The cover was the best I've seen so far on the mag, maybe on any of your mags. I enjoyed the story itself because GR was fighting a true-to-life shark and not some supernatural foe. A welcome change.

Bruno Bertolini
135-49 115 Street
S. Ozone Park, NY 11420

Hey, you guys!

GHOST RIDER #16. You just hadda do it, didn't you? Everyone else in the industry has taken advantage of the "Jaws" craze. Why Marvel? The story was a bit too simplistic and contrived to really be interesting or even mildly entertaining. Sorry, people, but that's the way it goes. Better luck next time.

Mike Rutter
PO Box 130
Hampstead, MD 21074

Dear Marvel,

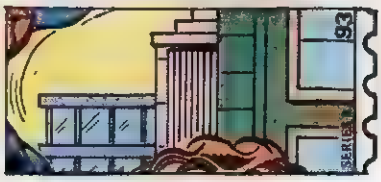
GHOST RIDER #16. The issue was pathetic.

Christy Marx
1811 Bellevue Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90026

NEXT ISSUE: your comments on the first chapter of the trilogy that begun in GHOST RIDER #17, "A Private Armageddon." And remember: your letter on this ish will keep an armadillo off the street and on the job! Be good, troops.

MARVEL VALUE STAMP

FOR THIS ISSUE!



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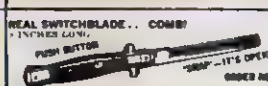

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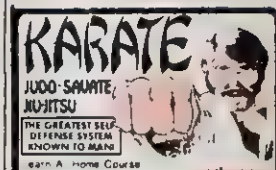

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NOT THIS TIME, FELLA!
UNNN!
WAP
CHOK!
YUCH!
IT IS NO LONGER PRACTICAL FOR YOU TO DIE A FITTING DEATH, MY "FRIEND" SO AT MY COMMAND--
--THE COPPERHEADS STRIKE!
NO--
WOK!
--WAY!
SOMETHING'S WRONG!
I DIDN'T REACH HIM IN TIME!
HIS BREATHING IS GETTING WEAKER AND WEAKER BY THE SECOND!
BUT HE CAN'T DIE LIKE THIS AGAIN!

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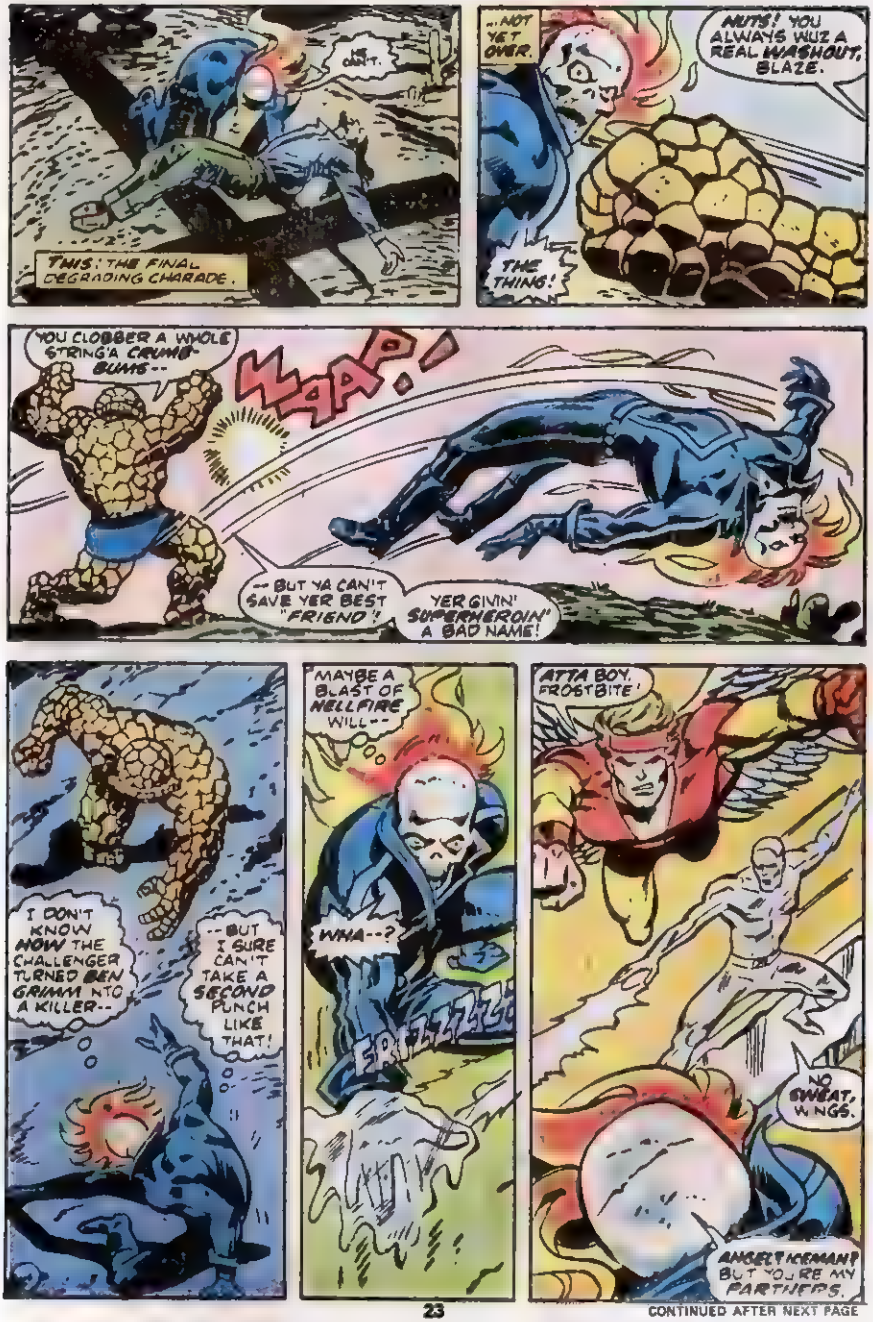
UNH.
THIS: THE FINAL DEGRADING CHARADE.
...NOT YET OVER.
NUTS! YOU ALWAYS WUZ A REAL WASHOUT, BLAZE.
THE THING!
YOU CLOBBER A WHOLE STRING'A CRUMB-BUMS--
WAP!
-- BUT YA CAN'T SAVE YER BEST "FRIEND"!
YER GIVIN' SUPERHEROIN' A BAD NAME!
I DON'T KNOW HOW THE CHALLENGER TURNED BEN GRIMM INTO A KILLER--
-- BUT I SURE CAN'T TAKE A SECOND PUNCH LIKE THAT!
MAYBE A BLAST OF HELLFIRE WILL--
WHA--?
ATTA BOY, FROSTBITE!
NO SWEAT, WINGS.
ANGEL? ICEMAN? BUT YOU'RE MY PARTNERS.

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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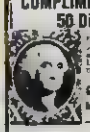

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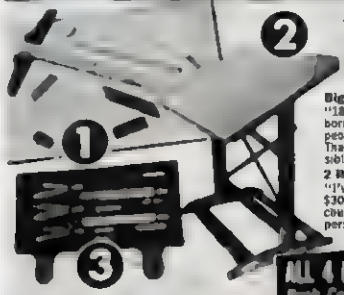

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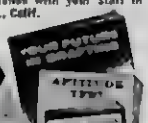

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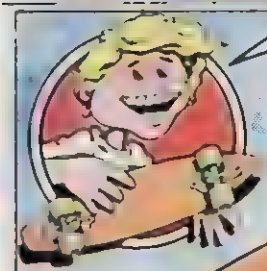
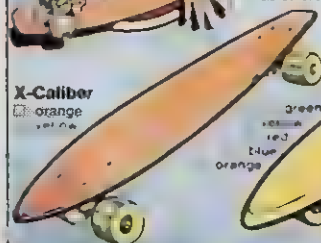
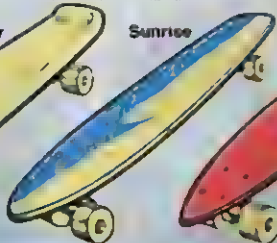


X-Caliber
☐ orange
yellow



GX-Caliber
green
red
blue
orange



Sunrise

Kick Back
white
blue
orange
black
white
red
yellow

This one is a pultruded fiberglass board that's great for slalom skateboarding. It's flexible and really sturdy. A top performance board. ☐ 22" ☐ 27" ☐ w/regular wheels $26.45; ☐ w/large $26.85; ☐ w/wide $26.45; ☐ w/stokers $33.85

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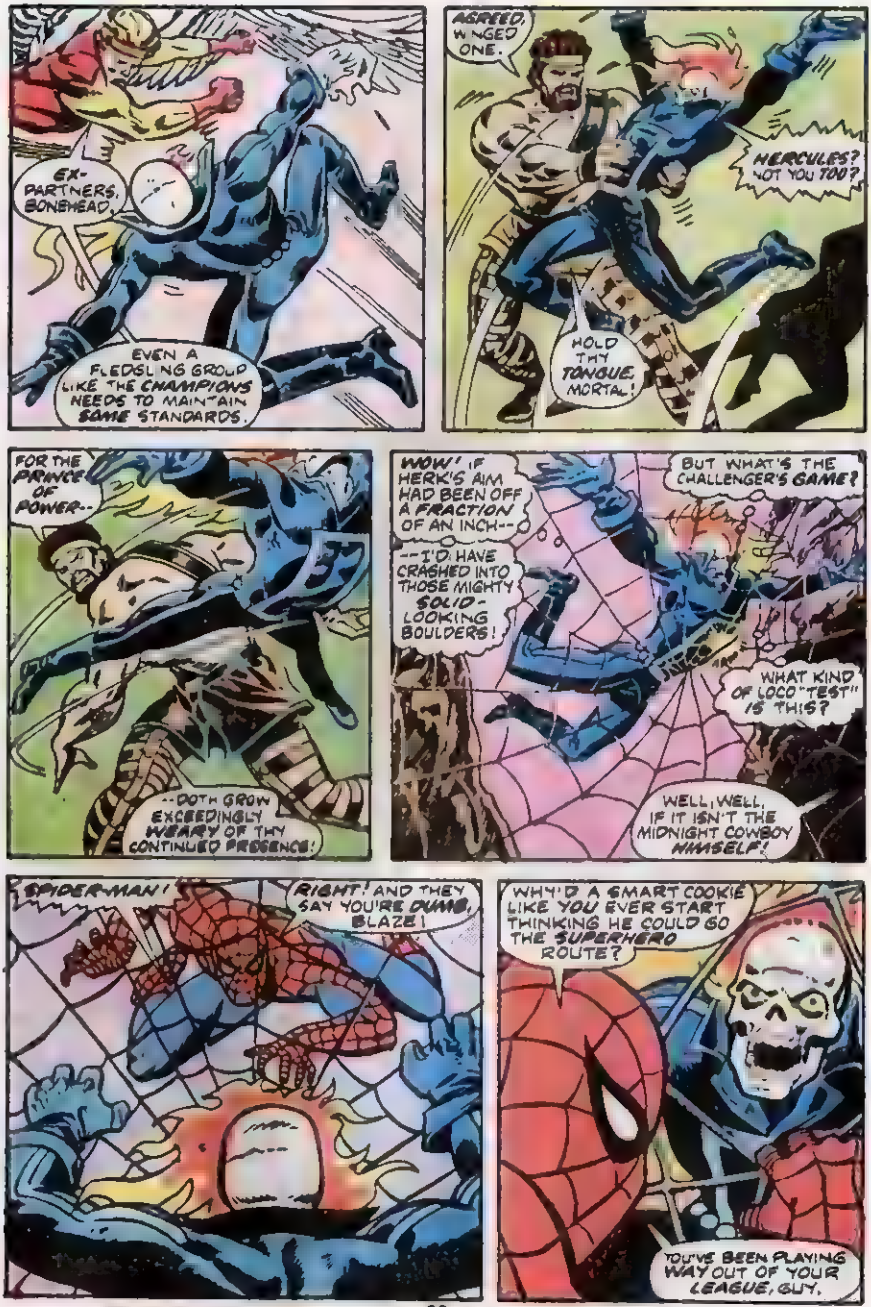
EX-PARTNERS, BONEHEAD.
EVEN A FLEDSLING GROUP LIKE THE CHAMPIONS NEEDS TO MAINTAIN SAME STANDARDS.
AGREED, WINGED ONE.
HERCULES? NOT YOU TOO?
HOLD THY TONGUE, MORTAL!
FOR THE PRINCE OF POWER--
--DOTH GROW EXCEEDINGLY WEARY OF THY CONTINUED PRESENCE!
WOW! IF HERK'S AIM HAD BEEN OFF A FRACTION OF AN INCH--
--I'D HAVE CRASHED INTO THOSE MIGHTY SOLID-LOOKING BOULDERS!
BUT WHAT'S THE CHALLENGER'S GAME?
WHAT KIND OF LOCO "TEST" IS THIS?
WELL, WELL, IF IT ISN'T THE MIDNIGHT COWBOY HIMSELF!
SPIDER-MAN!
RIGHT! AND THEY SAY YOU'RE DUMB, BLAZE!
WHY'D A SMART COOKIE LIKE YOU EVER START THINKING HE COULD GO THE SUPERHERO ROUTE?
YOU'VE BEEN PLAYING WAY OUT OF YOUR LEAGUE, GUY.

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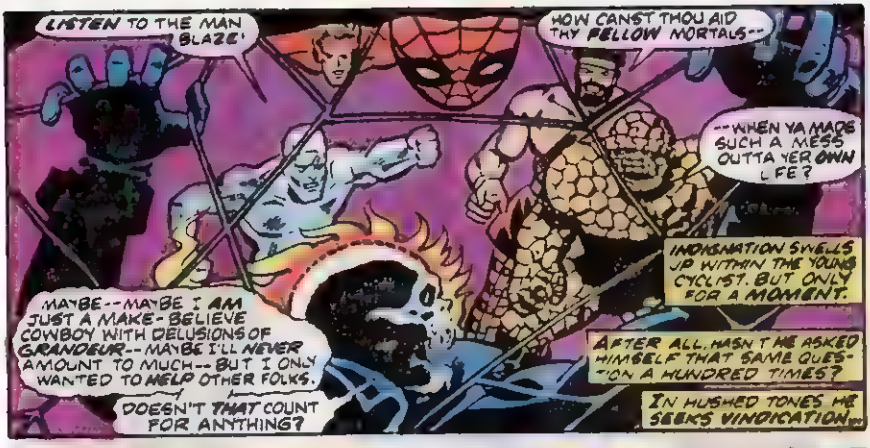
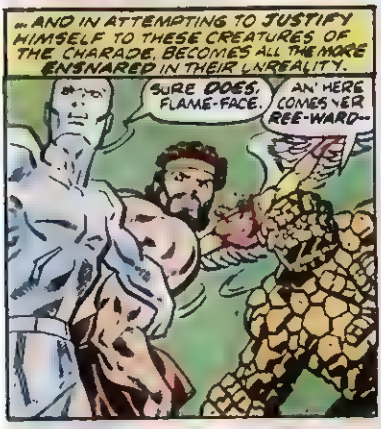
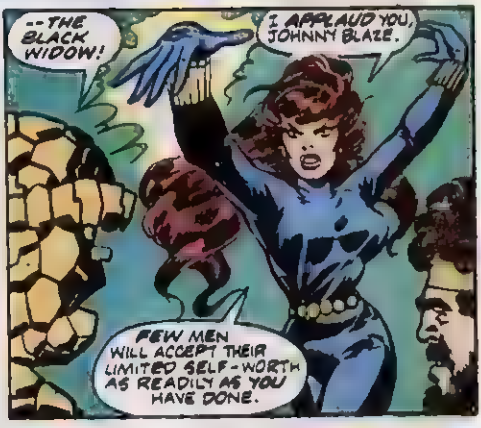
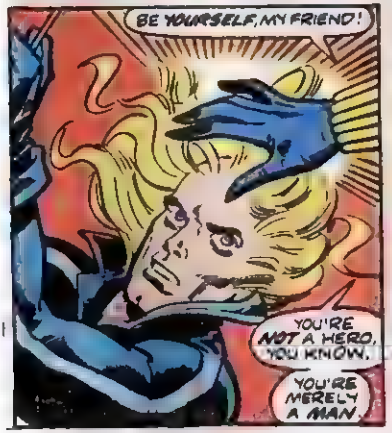
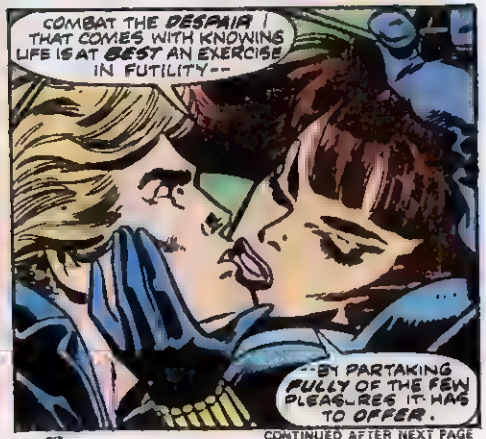

LISTEN TO THE MAN BLAZE!
HOW CANST THOU AID THY FELLOW MORTALS--
--WHEN YA MADE SUCH A MESS OUTTA YER OWN LIFE?
INDIGNATION SWELLS UP WITHIN THE YOUNG CYCLIST. BUT ONLY FOR A MOMENT.
MAYBE--MAYBE I AM JUST A MAKE-BELIEVE COWBOY WITH DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR--MAYBE I'LL NEVER AMOUNT TO MUCH--BUT I ONLY WANTED TO HELP OTHER FOLKS.
DOESN'T THAT COUNT FOR ANYTHING?
AFTER ALL, HASN'T HE ASKED HIMSELF THAT SAME QUES-TION A HUNDRED TIMES?
IN HUSHED TONES HE SEEKS VINDICATION...


...AND IN ATTEMPTING TO JUSTIFY HIMSELF TO THESE CREATURES OF THE CHARADE, BECOMES ALL THE MORE ENSNARED IN THEIR UNREALITY.
SURE DOES, FLAME-FACE.
AN' HERE COMES YER REE-WARD--






COMBAT THE DESPAIR THAT COMES WITH KNOWING LIFE IS AT BEST AN EXERCISE IN FUTILITY--
--BY PARTAKING FULLY OF THE FEW PLEASURES IT HAS TO OFFER.

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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NEWS NOTES, NIFTY NARRATION, AND NUTTY NONSENSE NOT FOR THE NARROW-MINDED!

STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

A staggering thought just struck me! Somewhere in the riotous ranks of Marveldom Assembled there might be a true believer who hasn't heard about the Marvel phenomenon in jolly ol' England! For instance, didja know we publish seven special weekly comics in Great Britain and they're selling like there's no tomorrow? Didja know that I visited London recently and appeared at the famous Roundhouse Theatre to do a special Marvel show (with Happy Herbie Trimpe, who was living over there at the time), for a sellout, standing-room-only crowd of wildly enthusiastic fans? Didja know that the highly-respected Campbell's SF and Comic Shop in the arty Nottinghill section of London has its main display devoted almost exclusively to our zingy Marvel Mags? Didja know that Paul McCartney's MAGNETO AND THE TITANIUM MAN single is a sensation wherever it's played?And wait'll you hear his new DAREDEVIL disc! Didja know that Paul and Linda, with whom I had the greatest time discussing a new Marvel/McCartney project, wanted me to be sure to give their regards to Marvelites everywhere? (And more about our top-secret, senses-shattering project in a later issue!)I could go on and on, but you get the idea. So remember, whenever you visit our British buddies across the sea, you'll feel right at home—you'll find Marvel Comics wherever you look! (How's that for a comforting thought?!!) And now, just another titanic thought before I turn you loose. Because both ORIGINS OF MARVEL COMICS and its sentimental sequel, SON OF ORIGINS, have become such dynamite best-sellers, there will definitely be a third volume on sale this fall— it'll feature the cataclysmic birth of our mighty Marvel villains! And wait'll you hear the title! No, let's make a contest out of it. Send in your guesses as to what we'll call our villains' origins book. The winners will each win a giant-size No-Prize— and the losers will, too—'cause I love ya all! So, till Conan gets a crew cut, always remember the immortal words of Irving Forbush—Gardez le foi, baby!

Excelsior!

Stan

P.S.: Don't forget the mighty Marvel-Con at NY's Hotel Commodore April 23, 24and25!If you're anywhere in the Western Hemisphere at that time, you've just gotta join us, hear?

ITEM! We're giving you advanced warning on this one, playmate, 'cause we want you to make sure that absolutely no one misses the ever-lovin' events occurring in THE INCREDIBLE HULK #200. That's right, Wild One—old Jade-Jaw's bicentennial issue features more guest stars than you can shake a gamma-radiated fist at. Art by Our Pal SAL BUSCEMA and Jolly JOE STATON, of course. Who can ask for anything more? And speaking of our jolly green giant, wait'll you see a couple of sensational special issues we've got planned for you, with surprise guest artists such as Bashful BERNI WRIGHTSON and Judo JIM STARLIN doing their thing with Lively LEN WEIN

ITEM! If you've been wondering why you've been seeing less of Garrulous Gil KANE's cavorting covers these past few months, well, we've been waiting to let the reasons burst free. Y'see, Ol' "Sugar" Kane's been dying to get back to drawing insides again, and he's just finished not one, but two new stories. First is this year's sensational SPIDER-MAN annual—a fist-fighting free-for-all with Spidey's newest foe, the fearsome Fly— and the second story's Gil's premiere appearance as the brand new artist on THE INHUMANS, written by Devil-May-Care DOUG MOENCH. And right after finishing his saga of Black Bolt's brothers and sisters, Gil takes over the reigns of "Sons Of The Tiger" in our bombastic black-and-white blockbuster mag THE DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG FU! So you'll be seeing quite a bit of raising Kane art in the months to come. And if you're wondering what GEORGE "Pace-Setter" PEREZ will be doing now that he's left the aforementioned mags, well, take a peek at the "World's Greatest Comic Mag," namely THE FANTASTIC FOUR, and see who its newest artist sensation is. Just one guess, Faithful One! And, once again, if you're wondering what Riotous RICH BUCKLER is working on now that he's left the F.F., well, besides taking over the scripting chores for his cybernetic brainchild, DEATHLOK, Rich will be doing a special fill-in for our armored Avenger, IRON MAN, and another fill-in for Marvel's newest super-sensation, BLACK GOLIATH. And, besides all that, Rich returns to one of his all-time favorites, again teaming up with Dandy DON McGREGOR to co-produce THE BLACK PANTHER! Whew!

ITEM! And speaking of our rapturous annuals, the first two of our all-new 52-page, giant-sized mags will be arriving at your newsstands this month, and we just have to tell ya that we're as excited about these bonus babies as you are. In our IRON MAN annual, everyone's favorite golden Avenger meets everyone's favorite swamp-creature, the macabre MAN-THING, and the two of them will be taking on a brand-new Molecule Man—only this M.M has a big difference. Take a peek and see for yourself what lies behind the covers of this STEVE GERBER/SAL BUSCEMA treat. And, at the same time our fighting heroes from World War Two, the ever-lovin' INVADERS, will be making a guest appearance as they team up with a far-out quartet of super-heroes otherwise known as the FANTASTIC FOUR in the F.F.'s own annual. This one's by Rascally ROY THOMAS and Big JOHN BUSCEMA. You won't want to miss either of these books, compadre. After all, they were written and illustrated just for you!

ITEM! If you take a look at what's been comin' on in Marvel's way-out mystery mags, you might just be surprised! Both THE TOMB OF DRACULA and WEREWOLF BY NIGHT are in the midst of some earth-shattering changes which we know no true Marvelite will want to miss. Frinstance, not only does the Lord of Vampires meet his future wife in this month's mag (and marry her next month—talk about short engagements), but we can guarantee you that a satanic sibling will soon be making its appearance there. And if you think that's a teaser for things to come, you better believe it. Meanwhile, in our shaggy friend's own book, there will be some startling changes in the Werewolf and his relationship with Jack Russell, plus the extra-special appearance of Brother Voodoo. We can't give away too much about what's happenin' in Wolfie's life, but we're betting everyone will dig it

ITEM! You've probably been wondering what those little boxes in the left-hand corner of all our mags on sale this month are. Well, never let it be said that Marvel doesn't tell it all to our rapturous readers. The box is called "The Universal Product Code" (U.P.C. for short), and this has been put on everything from comics to containers, from magazines to matchboxes, in order to sell the product in all stores. Fact is, you've probably already seen this on all other comics, and now Marvel has it, too, And just in case you're wondering, the computer code has to be placed exactly where it is, and can't be moved either to the back cover or inside the book. Truth to tell, folks, if you've been having trouble finding issues of Mighty Marvels this past year, this new code should actually help eliminate some of the problems. It may take time to work a few bugs out of the system, but, in the long run, it's gonna make sure that you'll see your Marvel's everywhere, which means your favorite titles will have a better chance of reaching you than ever before

ITEM! All fans of our fine-feathered fowl, HOWARD THE DUCK, take notice, 'cause you're in for a special treat during these next few months. Hot on the tail of Big JOHN BUSCEMA's rendering of the Duck's third issue, Gentleman GENE COLAN will be putting his titanic talents to pencilling issue four, and after Gene, the previously mentioned BERNI WRIGHTSON will be taking over as Howard's permanent penciller Not too bad for a duck, it is?

ITEM! This item is just a sneaky way of telling you that next month, JACK "King" KIRBY's newest earth-shaker will be hitting the stands And we'll give you the full low-down on our newest hit in our next Bulletin. Till then, peace and love

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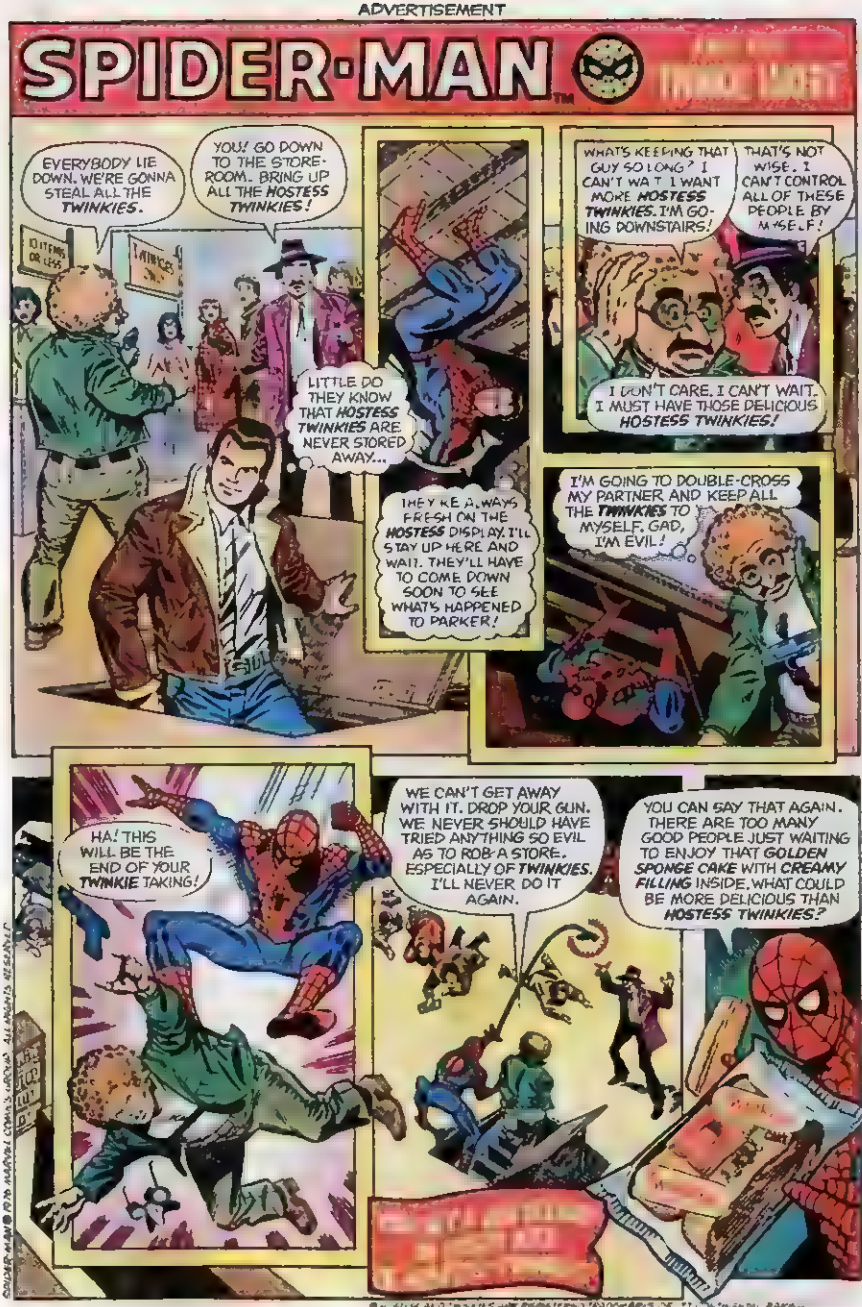
SPIDER-MAN
EVERYBODY LIE DOWN. WE'RE GONNA STEAL ALL THE TWINKIES.
YOU! GO DOWN TO THE STORE-ROOM.. BRING UP ALL THE HOSTESS TWINKIES!
10 ITEMS OR LESS
LITTLE DO THEY KNOW THAT HOSTESS TWINKIES ARE NEVER STORED AWAY...
THEY'RE ALWAYS FRESH ON THE HOSTESS DISPLAY. I'LL STAY UP HERE AND WAIT. THEY'LL HAVE TO COME DOWN SOON TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENED TO PARKER!
WHAT'S KEEPING THAT GUY SO LONG? I CAN'T WAIT! I WANT MORE HOSTESS TWINKIES. I'M GOING DOWNSTAIRS!
THAT'S NOT WISE. I CAN'T CONTROL ALL OF THESE PEOPLE BY MYSELF!
I DON'T CARE. I CAN'T WAIT. I MUST HAVE THOSE DELICIOUS HOSTESS TWINKIES!
I'M GOING TO DOUBLE-CROSS MY PARTNER AND KEEP ALL THE TWINKIES TO MYSELF. GAD, I'M EVIL!
HA! THIS WILL BE THE END OF YOUR TWINKIE TAKING!
WE CAN'T GET AWAY WITH IT. DROP YOUR GUN. WE NEVER SHOULD HAVE TRIED ANYTHING SO EVIL AS TO ROB A STORE. ESPECIALLY OF TWINKIES. I'LL NEVER DO IT AGAIN.
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN. THERE ARE TOO MANY GOOD PEOPLE JUST WAITING TO ENJOY THAT GOLDEN SPONGE CAKE WITH CREAMY FILLING INSIDE. WHAT COULD BE MORE DELICIOUS THAN HOSTESS TWINKIES?

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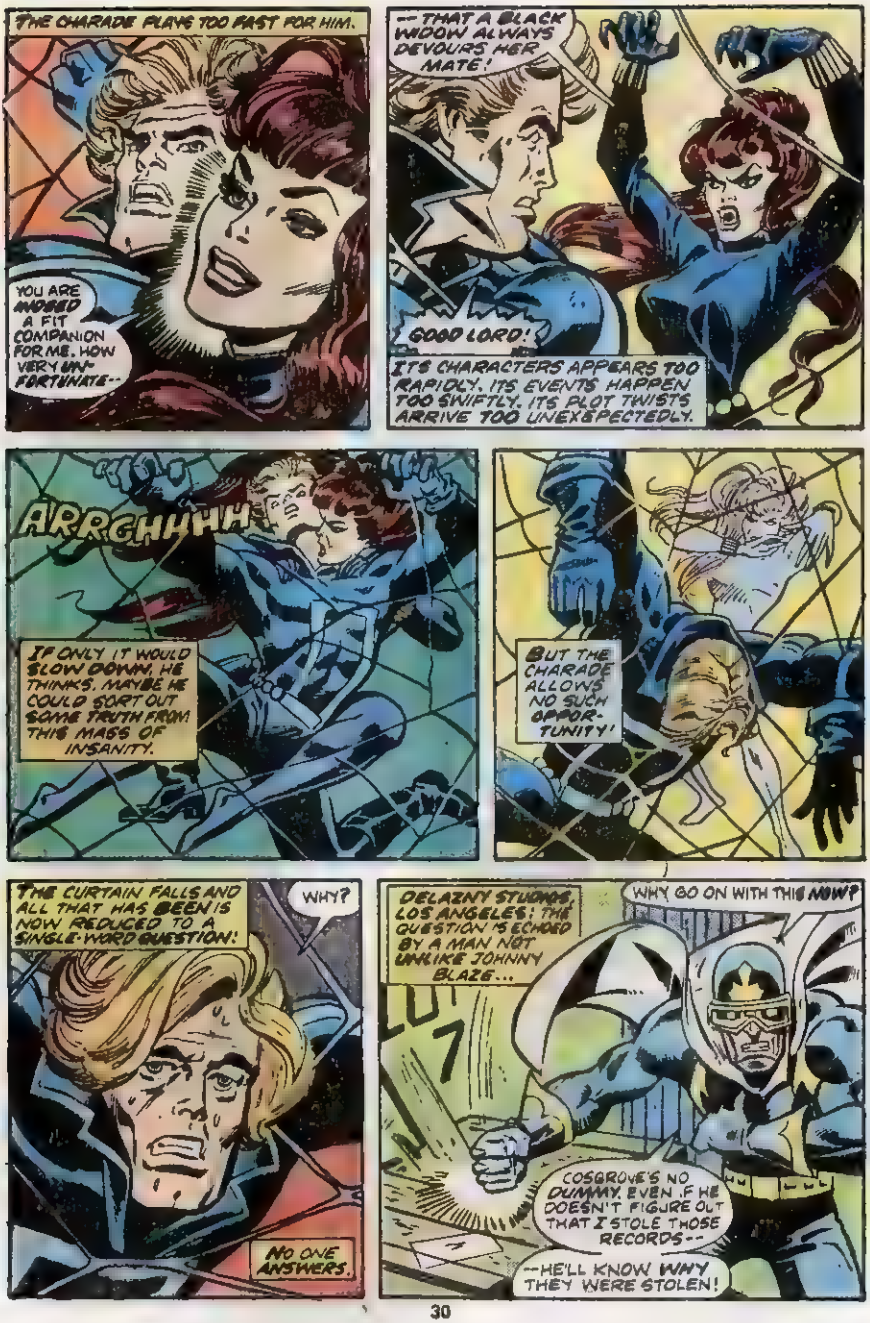
THE CHARADE PLAYS TOO FAST FOR HIM.
YOU ARE INDEED A FIT COMPANION FOR ME. HOW VERY UNFORTUNATE--
--THAT A BLACK WIDOW ALWAYS DEVOURS HER MATE!
GOOD LORD!
ITS CHARACTERS APPEARS TOO RAPIDLY. ITS EVENTS HAPPEN TOO SWIFTLY. ITS PLOT TWISTS ARRIVE TOO UNEXPECTEDLY.
ARRGHHHH
IF ONLY IT WOULD SLOW DOWN, HE THINKS. MAYBE HE COULD SORT OUT SOME TRUTH FROM THIS MASS OF INSANITY.
BUT THE CHARADE ALLOWS NO SUCH OPPORTUNITY!
THE CURTAIN FALLS AND ALL THAT HAS BEEN IS NOW REDUCED TO A SINGLE-WORD QUESTION!
WHY?
NO ONE ANSWERS.
DELAZNY STUDIOS, LOS ANGELES! THE QUESTION IS ECHOED BY A MAN NOT UNLIKE JOHNNY BLAZE...
WHY GO ON WITH THIS NOW?
COSGROVE'S NO DUMMY. EVEN IF HE DOESN'T FIGURE OUT THAT I STOLE THOSE RECORDS--
--HE'LL KNOW WHY THEY WERE STOLEN!

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WHATEVER THAT MISERABLE ACCOUNTANT HAS DISCOVERED, HE CAN'T STOP US IF WE ACT NOW, STUNT-MASTER.
ONLY THE GHOST RIDER HAS BLOCKED MY PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS -- AND YOU'RE MORE THAN A MATCH FOR HIM.
BUT JOHNNY'S MY FRIEND!
AND I AM YOUR MASTER -- NOW AND FOREVER!
GET KAREN PAGE, STUNT-MASTER --
--AND BRING HER TO DEATH'S-HEAD!

NEXT ISSUE: THE SENSATIONALLY SINISTER SECRET OF THE CHALLENGER -- G.R.'S MOST DESPERATE BATTLE -- A SURPRISE GUEST OR TWO -- MUCH, MUCH MORE IN THE THRILLER WE CALL:

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Richard Kennedy, Philadelphia, Pa.

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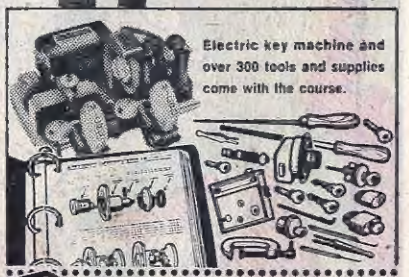

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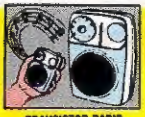
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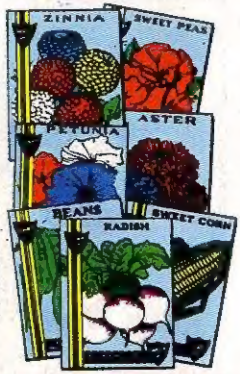

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